

SENATE BILL 1949
By Black

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-82-304 and Section 65-25-205, relative to voluntary contribution programs of utility districts and electric cooperatives.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-82-304(13), is amended in subdivision (C) by adding the following language to the end thereto:

Nonprofit faith-based or expressly religious organizations are eligible to accept and distribute voluntary contributions for bona fide charitable purposes from a utility district. Such voluntary contributions shall be used for the purposes of this subdivision. Rules, regulations or by-laws of a utility district that contravene the provisions of this subdivision shall be void.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-25-205(d), is amended by adding a new subdivision thereto, as follows:

(3) Nonprofit faith-based or expressly religious organizations are eligible to accept and distribute voluntary contributions for bona fide charitable purposes from a cooperative. Such voluntary contributions shall be used by nonprofit faith-based or expressly religious organizations solely for charitable purposes. Rules, regulations or by-laws of a cooperative that contravene the provisions of this subdivision shall be void.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.